

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A service utilization ID number settlement system ~~according to any of claims 20,~~for the provision of services based on an amount of money payable in advance by a user, and comprising:

_____ a settlement terminal device, configured so as to read, at the time of settlement for prescribed media, an ID number recorded on the media to cause the input of balance information equivalent to the amount of money paid in association with the ID number, and to transmit the ID number in association with said balance information;

_____ one or more settlement authentication devices, configured so as to store ID numbers transmitted from a settlement management device in association with said balance information; when there is a request for service from an information terminal device operated by a user, to judge whether service can be provided, referring to said ID number and balance information, and,

when it is judged that service can be provided, to permit provision of service to said information terminal device, and to subtract from the balance information an amount of money corresponding to the service amount;

wherein the settlement terminal device is configured to input service specification information specifying a service in association with the ID number, and to transmit said ID number in association the service specification information; and

wherein the system further comprises said settlement management device, configured so as to reference said service specification information when an ID number is transmitted from said settlement terminal device, and to transmit the ID number and balance information to a settlement authentication device associated with the service specified by the service specification information,

wherein said media comprises an online slip.

35. (Previously Presented) The service utilization ID number settlement system according to claim 34, wherein the online slip is printed from an information terminal device.

36. (Currently Amended) The service utilization ID number settlement system according to ~~any of claims 20 to claim 34~~, wherein the media comprises an information terminal adapted to display the ID number.